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Ministry of Advanced Education

B.C. APPROVES UVIC DEGREE IN FINANCIAL MATH, ECONOMICS

VICTORIA – The University of Victoria is offering a bachelor of science degree with a combined major in financial mathematics and economics, Advanced Education Minister Murray Coell announced today.

UVic's combined program in financial mathematics and economics is the only undergraduate program of its kind in Canada. It not only trains students in economics, statistics and mathematics, it teaches them how to apply their knowledge and skills in the financial world.

"For B.C. businesses to prosper in the global economy, it is important that the next generation of managers understand how quickly capital, labour and ideas move around the world," said Coell. "Graduates who can explain and forecast how global economic trends might influence business operations and profits will be an asset to their employers. They'll help improve B.C.'s international competitiveness."

The new interdisciplinary program is designed to teach students the analytic skills in demand worldwide by banks, brokerages and other major financial institutions.

"This new program responds to a need expressed by the financial community," said Catherine Mateer, the University of Victoria's associate vice-president of academic planning. "They want graduates with solid mathematics knowledge who can apply that knowledge in a business setting. By combining related disciplines in a creative way, we have developed a new program that will give our graduates skills that are in high demand."

The degree is jointly offered by the university's department of mathematics and statistics and its department of economics. To complete the degree's requirements, students must take select courses from both departments.

Since 2003, the Ministry of Advanced Education has approved 150 new undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The new degrees are helping B.C. improve its competitiveness and productivity through education and skills training.

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